

Mr. President, this program will only begin to touch upon some of the fundamental areas which must be addressed in halting alcohol from rearing its evil head on other vulnerable college campuses. The work now lies ahead for all schools to endorse these noteworthy approaches and ideas which are working on select campuses throughout the United States. Let these seven schools be models for all institutions of higher education today and in the future. I congratulate the awardees of the program, and look forward to a strong, prosperous future for all college-going students, a future that is free from alcohol and other drugs.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

#### THE WORK INCENTIVES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, right now, my home state of Vermont is celebrating Disability Employment Awareness Month. For that reason, I am delighted to speak about the "Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999," legislation that I developed with my colleagues, Senators KENNEDY, ROTH and MOYNIHAN. This Act, also known as the Work Incentives Improvement Act (WIIA), is the most important piece of legislation for individuals with disabilities since the Americans with Disabilities Act. This legislation is bipartisan. This legislation was brought to the floor of the United States Senate with 80 cosponsors. And, most importantly, this legislation passed through the Senate on June 15th with a unanimous vote of 99-0.

The "Work Incentives Improvement Act" addresses a fundamental flaw in current law. Today, individuals with disabilities are forced to make a choice, an absurd choice. They must choose between working and receiving health care. Under current law, if people with disabilities work and earn over \$500 per month, they will lose their cash payments and health care coverage under Medicaid or Medicare. This is health care coverage that they need. This is health care coverage that they can not get in the private sector. This is not right.

Individuals with disabilities want to work. They have told me this. In fact, national surveys over the past 10 years have consistently confirmed that people with disabilities want to be part of the American workforce. But only one-third of them do work. With the enactment of WIIA, these individuals would not need to worry about losing their health care if they choose to work a forty-hour week, to put in overtime, or to pursue a career advancement. Individuals with disabilities are sitting at home right now, waiting for this legislation to become law. Having a job would provide them with a sense of self-worth. Having a job would allow them to contribute to our economy. Having a job would provide them with a living wage, which is not what one has through Social Security.

Currently, there are 7.5 million individuals with disabilities across the nation who receive health care coverage and cash payments from the federal government. 24,000 of these people live in Vermont. Only, one-half of one percent of the 7.5 million work to their full potential, because, when they earn over \$500 per month, they lose their access to health care coverage. The first part of my legislation tackles this problem. In states that elect to take up this option, WIIA provides continuing access to health care for Social Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance beneficiaries who work and exceed the income threshold.

Recognizing that some SSI and SSDI recipients will need job training and job placement assistance, the second part of my bill provides these incentives. People with disabilities would have more choices in where to obtain vocational rehabilitation and employment services. In addition, we would increase the incentives to public and participating private providers serving these individuals.

This legislation makes sense. When I came to Congress in 1975, one of my legislative priorities was to provide individuals with disabilities access to the American dream. Through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Assistive Technology Act, we have consistently improved the lives of people with disabilities. Unfortunately, one major flaw remains, providing health care to individuals who want to work. The enactment of the Work Incentives Improvement Act would diminish this flaw in federal policy.

The Work Incentives Improvement Act reflects what individuals with disabilities say they need. Over 100 national organizations have given us their input and endorsed our bill. The President has made it clear that he would like to sign this legislation into law by the end of the current year. The Incentives Improvement Act provides the opportunity to bring responsible change to federal policy and to eliminate a misguided result of the current system—if you don't work, you get health care; if you do work, you don't get health care. The Work Incentives Improvement Act makes living the American dream a reality for millions of individuals with disabilities, who will no longer be forced to choose between the health care coverage they so strongly need and the economic independence they so dearly desire.

I am looking forward to having my colleagues in the House of Representatives finish their work on the Work Incentives Improvement Act. Let's send this bill to President Clinton by the end of this session of the 106th Congress.

CONFIRMATION OF COL. JOHN H. SINCLAIR TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR DISTRICT OF VERMONT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I congratulate Col. John Sinclair on his Senate confirmation as the next United States Marshal for the District of Vermont.

As a 30-year veteran of the Vermont State Police, Col. Sinclair has served as a uniformed trooper at both the Colchester and Bethel Barracks, later joined the Fraud Unit and the Governor's security detail, and then was promoted to the post of Station Commander at the Brattleboro Barracks. He has also commanded both the Criminal Division and the Field Force. In 1996, he was appointed to his present position as director of the Vermont State Police, the department's highest-ranking uniformed post.

I have known Col. Sinclair for nearly 30 years, since the time when he was a new State trooper and I was Chittenden County's new State's attorney. We worked closely together on a number of investigations, trials, and law enforcement education programs. I have watched his career for the past three decades and consider him to be one of the finest police officers with whom I have ever worked. He is a police officer's police officer. He is a strong component of our law enforcement team in Vermont.

He has gained extensive experience with State, federal, and local law enforcement matters. It is fitting that his longstanding service to the people of Vermont culminate in this important law enforcement position. His practical experience, background and training qualify him to be Vermont's 34th United States Marshal.

Again, I congratulate Col. Sinclair and his wife, Barbara, who live in Charlotte, and their two sons, on receiving Senate confirmation as United States Marshal for the District of Vermont.

#### SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, this month the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office is celebrating their sesquicentennial anniversary. The Sheriff's Office is a proud tradition of Utah, and I am grateful to them for keeping Salt Lake County a safe place to live and visit.

Pioneers first settled the Salt Lake Valley in 1847. In March 1849, they elected Brigham Young to be their Governor. Then, in October of the same year, John D. Parker was elected to serve as the first sheriff of what would become the state of Utah. Later, in 1852, after the federal government ratified the creation of the office of county sheriff, James B. Ferguson became John D. Parker's successor. Sheriff Ferguson was the first officially elected sheriff of Salt Lake County. This makes the Salt Lake County Sheriff's